

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: De Groot *et al.* CONFIRMATION NO.: 1785  
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/534,777 GROUP NO.: 1626  
FILING DATE: December 20, 2005 EXAMINER: Joseph R. Kosack  
TITLE: PRODRUGS BUILT AS MULTIPLE SELF-ELIMINATION-  
RELEASE SPACERS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to an Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (the “USPTO”) on July 9, 2008 (“Office Action”), for the above-identified patent application. Applicants also enclose a petition and fee for a two-month extension of time for responding up to and including December 9, 2008. Applicants believe that no further petition or fee is required at this time. Nevertheless, the Director is authorized to charge any additional fee due for this submission to Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 37 of this paper.